

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 345

By Keisling

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Charles Edward Darnell  
of Macon County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of  
the passing of Charles Edward Darnell of Macon County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Darnell was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional  
who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous  
capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in Bedford County on a farm, Charles Edward Darnell was the second  
son and third child of Marcus Edward Darnell and May Lee (Bell) Darnell; and

WHEREAS, raised on the family farm, Charles Darnell attended Shelbyville High School,  
where he participated in numerous athletic activities, including football, baseball, basketball, and  
track; and

WHEREAS, while attending the University of Tennessee, Mr. Darnell met his future wife,  
Frances Cassetty, in a chemistry class; the couple married on July 1, 1961, in Whitleyville; and

WHEREAS, Charles Darnell worked as a salesman for a livestock feed company and  
then as a cashier/loan officer at Harpeth National Bank in Franklin for five years before he was  
named the president and CEO of Citizens Bank in Lafayette in 1972; and

WHEREAS, during his exemplary tenure at Citizens Bank, Mr. Darnell oversaw the  
successful growth and expansion of the bank's assets and operation, as it grew from one  
location with \$14 million in total assets to become a multi-million-dollar organization with twenty  
locations across the Upper Cumberland; and

WHEREAS, after his retirement, he remained actively involved as a member of the  
Citizens Bank Board of Directors and loan committee; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected and admired leader in his community and profession, Mr.  
Darnell was a former president of the Tennessee Banker Association, a member of the Macon

Community Hospital Board for more than thirty-five years, a member of the Rotary Club, a member of the Alumni Board of the University of Tennessee, and an advisor to the financial committee of the 4-H Alumni Foundation; and

WHEREAS, passionate about the game of baseball, Charles Darnell taught boys and girls about baseball and the "game of life" for forty-five years, including thirty-three years of service with the Lafayette Little League; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Mr. Darnell received the Will Hall Sullivan Award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Darnell was an active and devout member of the Lafayette Church of Christ, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Darnell was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Frances Cassetty Darnell, and was the proud father of Katherine (Dirk) Ebener and Marcus (Lena) Darnell and the devoted grandfather of three, Caleb Darnell, Lora Darnell, and Kaylin Ebener; and

WHEREAS, Charles Darnell leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Charles Edward Darnell, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Darnell.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.